

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----180950Z 058606 /21

P 180840Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9335
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1194

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, EINV, PINS, AO, US
SUBJECT: FLEC THREAT TO GULF CABINDA

SUMMARY: IN WAKE OF LATEST SERIES OF FLEC THREATS AGAINST
ITS CABINDA OPERATIONS, GULF HAS SET UP EMERGENCY PLAN
OF EVACUATION FOR EMPLOYEES THERE. END SUMMARY.

1. EARL WISNER, DIRECTOR OF GULF OPERATIONS IN GABON,
CALLED AT EMBASSY MAY 17 TO DISCUSS COMPANY'S CONTINGENCY
PLANS FOR EVACUATING EMPLOYEES FROM CABINDA. WISNER SAID
THAT GULF CANNOT ASSESS SERIOUSNESS OF FLEC THREAT BUT
NEVERTHELESS AS TAKEN FOLLOWING PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES.
NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES IN CABINDA HAS BEEN REDUCED TO SKELETON
CREW OF THIRTY FIVE, MOSTLY US AND BRITISH CITIZENS.
GULF HEADQUARTERS IN LIBREVILLE MAINTAINING DAILY RADIO
CONTACT WITH CABINDA OPERATIONS BASE. OCEAN GOING
VESSEL USED BY GULF IN CABINDA TO CARRY MATERIALS TO
OFFSHORE RIGS KEPT STOCKED WITH FOOD AND SUPPLIES IN
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CASE OF USE FOREMERGENCY EVACUATION.

2. IN EVENT SITUATION DICTATES TAKING EMPLOYEES OUT OF
CABINDA, GULF NOW PLANS TO EVACUATE THEM BY SEA TO PORT
GENTIL ON SOUTHWEST GABONESE COAST. WISNER ESTIMATES
GULF VESSELS TRAVEL TIME FROM CABINDA TO PORT GENTIL AT
APPROXIMATELY TWELVE HOURS. GULF HAS MADE TENTATIVE ARR-

ANGEMENTS FORHOUSING AND FEEDING EVACUATED EMPLOYEES
IN PORT GENTIL, BUT WOULD MOVE THEM FROM THERE BY
CHARTER AIRCRAFT TO EITHER CANARY ISLANDS OR EUROPE AS
SOON AS POSSIBLE.

3. WISNER REQUESTED EMBASSY HELP INFACILITATING EMERGENCY
ENTRY OF GULF EMPLOYEES INTO GABON SHOULD EVACUATION TAKE
PLACE. EMBASSY, WHICH CURRENTLY HAS EXCELLENT WORKING
RELATIONSHIP WITH GABONESE SECURITY AND IMIGRATION
POLICE, FORESEESNO PROBLEM IN OBTAINING GOG AUTHORIZATION
FOR EVACUEES TO TRANSIT PORT GENTIL. IN MEANTIME
WISNER PROVIDING EMBASSY WITH BEST AVAILABLE LIST OF
CABINDA EMPLOYEES NAMES AND PASSPORT DATA. STEIGMAN

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
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